

name for himself in the art of golf course design. His understanding of the game of golf, combined with a desire to create courses that are both beautiful and challenging has resulted in numerous quality golf courses.

Mr. Speaker, Raymond Floyd is among the names of the other greats in golf history. His accomplishments on and off the course will live forever.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Chairman, during rollcall vote No. 57 on the Neugebauer amendment to H.R. 4939, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

CONGRATULATING THE TEXAS WESLEYAN BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the superior performance of the Texas Wesleyan Basketball Team on their victory over Oklahoma City for the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics' Division I Men's Basketball Championship at Municipal Auditorium.

The unseeded Rams won the final game 67–65 to become the NAIA Division I Men's Basketball Championship. The victory came when the Rams' senior guard, Ben Hunt, hit a three-point shot with 0.2 seconds remaining in the game. Senior forward Trevor Meier managed to tie the score at 64–64 which paved the way for Texas Wesleyan's climatic finish.

Additional honors came to individual team members when Evan Patterson was selected as the tournament's Most Valuable Player and Head Coach, Terry Waldrop, was named the Rawlings-NAIA Division I Men's Basketball Coach of the Year. The championship victory marked the first NAIA Division I Championship for Texas Wesleyan.

This victory was a combined effort and would not have been possible if it was not for the incredible sense of teamwork put forth by all athletes.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Head Coach Terry Waldrop, Texas Wesleyan President Harold Jeffcoat, as well as the members of the Texas Wesleyan Basketball Team. I am honored to serve as their U.S. Representative.

TRIBUTE TO MR. TIM CHESLEY

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the fine work and achievements of one of my constituents in Western North Carolina, Mr. Tim Chesley. Mr.

Chesley serves as an engineer for the National Forests in North Carolina and recently earned the U.S. Forest Service's National Managerial Engineer of the Year award.

A Forest Service employee for 30 years, Tim Chesley garnered this prestigious award for his outstanding management of programs, projects and employees. "His extraordinary response to the massive destruction, that resulted from the remnants of three hurricanes in September of 2004, plus his long-standing leadership as the assistant forest engineer for the past 22 years merits this award," wrote Forest engineer Lynn Hicks in the nomination letter.

Mr. Chesley was selected as the deputy planning chief and engineering liaison, when an incident command team was formed, after flooding from the hurricanes wrecked havoc on Forest Service lands over a two-week period sixteen months ago. Working six days a week, he coordinated the planning, design, reconstruction, and contract administration for the repair of hundreds of miles of National Forest roads and trails and for nearly 50 bridges as well as for campgrounds, fisheries, offices and other Forest Service facilities.

Mr. Chesley continues to coordinate the administration of contracts that will exceed \$35 million, and in July he helped secure another \$5.5 million in Emergency Relief of Federally Owned Roads funding. He was also responsible for the recruitment, training and supervision of more than 150 engineering employees who have come to North Carolina, from across the country on temporary assignment, to assist with the storm recovery effort. As a manager for most of his career, he has supervised more than 30 people, including trainees, technicians and professionals. He is currently supervising seven engineering trainees, who were sent to North Carolina for one year in support of the hurricane damage recovery work.

A native of Conway, New Hampshire, Mr. Chesley received his bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of New Hampshire, and his Master's Degree in Civil Engineering and Transportation Planning from the University of California at Berkeley. In addition to his professional responsibilities, he has taken the lead on several major community projects, including raising funds and constructing playgrounds for Asheville's Kenilworth community and for Glenn C. Marlow Elementary School in Hendersonville. He is a member of the Board of Directors for the Asheville Kiwanis Club where he has been a member for more than ten years.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues in the House will be most appreciative of Mr. Chesley's devotion and hard work at the United States Forest Service. I am proud to announce that he will be presented the U.S. Forest Service's National Managerial Engineer of the Year award at a formal ceremony in Washington, DC on April 3, 2006.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Chairman, during rollcall vote No. 56 on the Sabo

amendment to H.R. 4939, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

CONGRATULATIONS TO DANIEL MCPHERSON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Daniel McPherson who, due to his superior performance, received the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches 2A honor as Player of the Year after scoring 26 points in the Lions' semifinal win over Tahoka High School.

As one of Ponder High's leading basketball players, Daniel, a 6–2 senior forward, manages to give his absolute best efforts when the team requires it most. He is aware that victory is a combined effort and would not have been possible if it was not for the incredible sense of teamwork put forth by all athletes.

I extend my most sincere congratulations to Daniel McPherson and wish him the best of luck in his academic and athletic career.

TRIBUTE TO AGNES DALE SMITH

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because on April 2, 2006, Agnes Dale Smith will celebrate her 100th birthday. Those who know and love her call her "Aggie" and she was born in Willow Hill, Illinois, in 1906. Such longevity is truly special and certainly deserves to be recognized and respected. It is truly amazing to think of all that America has experienced in the past century and to know that Aggie has witnessed it all.

In 1925, Aggie graduated from Robinson High School in Robinson, Illinois, where she served as Vice President of her senior class. She also wrote for the school newspaper and played intramural basketball and field hockey. On October 16, 1930, Aggie married Victor L. Smith. They would have one daughter, Emily Carol. Aggie went on to earn her Associate in Science degree from Vincennes University in 1967. Aggie then studied at Trinity College in Dublin during the summer of 1969. She also studied at American University in Washington D.C. as well as four other mid-western locations, including Lincoln Trail College in Robinson, Illinois.

During her life, Aggie has seen and experienced much. For instance, she was appointed as a Volunteer Services Director during World War II and traveled to Chicago on three occasions to attend conferences. She also witnessed the investiture of Prince Charles in Wales. Aggie has attended four Republican National Conventions in her lifetime. She was elected National Vice President of Delta Theta Tau philanthropic sorority. Aggie also proudly served the Illinois Daughters of the Revolution as Division VI director for two years. In 1987, Aggie was named a Distinguished Citizen by the Robinson Chamber of Commerce.

Again, I rise today to celebrate Aggie Smith's 100th birthday and recognize her many accomplishments. I hope my colleagues will join me in wishing her many happy years to come.

TRIBUTE TO VIOLA VAN DORIN

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Viola Van Dorin, who served in the armed forces as a nurse during the Second World War.

Viola Van Dorin, as well as her late husband, Forrest Van Dorin, both valued their patriotic obligation to enlist in our nation's military shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. After her exemplary service in the Army Nurse Corps, Viola devoted herself to preserving the memory of World War II by donating more than 240 items to the Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing. She currently lives in Jackson, Michigan.

Violet began her career as a nurse, graduating from the Sparrow Hospital School of Nursing in 1935. She worked at the Michigan State College Hospital, and then moved on to private practice with Dr. Kenneth Hodges and Dr. Kenneth Johnson. She excelled as both an office receptionist and an assistant to the physicians. Vi had the opportunity to even star in a film during the prewar period, a documentary called *The Case History of Lucy X*, which was the first to educate the public and medical professionals on the contagious disease tuberculosis.

In 1942, Vi was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps and assigned to Torney General Hospital in Palm Springs, California. There she met her future husband, then a dashing young Sergeant in the Army. They married on June 7, 1943, and their marriage lasted until Forrest's death in 2003.

In 1944, Vi was assigned to the 82nd General Hospital unit and transported to Wales where the unit helped rehabilitate wounded soldiers. Before the end of the War, Vi was promoted to First Lieutenant and received several citations: the American Theater Ribbon, three Overseas Service Bars and a Victory Medal. She and her husband were reunited in 1946, and they settled down in the Lansing area. She and Forrest had a son, Ken Van Dorin, as well as three grandchildren: Rebecca Louise, Natalie Ann and Robert Kenneth.

Violet's service in both the military and the medical field has demonstrated her commitment to serving our nation, caring for others, and preserving historical treasures. She should also be commended for her tireless devotion to preserving the memory of World War II and honoring the sacrifices of our veterans. Across Michigan's counties and communities, her legacy will be realized long into the future. I am pleased to know her remarkable story, and to share it with my Congressional colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Violet Van Dorin, a citizen and a veteran truly deserving of our respect and admiration.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Chairman, during rollcall vote No. 55 on sustaining the ruling of the chair with regard to the point of order against the DeLauro amendment to H.R. 4939, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

TRIBUTE TO DAVID MITCHELL

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor David Mitchell of Pt. Reyes Station, California, who recently retired after 30 years as the editor and publisher of the *Point Reyes Light*. The Light has covered community activities, misdeeds, and controversies in the rural small towns of West Marin since 1975.

Dave earned a degree in journalism at Stanford University and worked at various small papers before buying the Light with his former wife Cathy. After the couple split up in 1981, Dave sold the paper and worked for the *San Francisco Examiner* for several years before getting the paper back due to payment default.

Described as everything from "intelligent, scrappy, and folksy" to "controversial, opinionated, and hard-headed," Dave always presented the news in a lively, personal manner and encouraged his readers to participate through letters and columns. He considered himself a muckraker and determinedly pursued deceit and corruption where he saw it. In 1979 he and Cathy won a Pulitzer Prize for their expose of the Synanon cult.

West Marin has changed during Dave's tenure, and the Light chronicled issues such as politics, immigration (even sending reporters to the Azores, Italy, and Jalisco, Mexico, where many were from), relations between Point Reyes National Seashore and the community, and the struggles of ranchers to remain viable as the towns became more gentrified. The paper was always challenged financially as Dave used an inheritance to subsidize it, and he sometimes suffered from severe burn-out as he worked long hours to keep both the finances and the news activities in line. After achieving financial stability, he sold the paper in November, 2005, to Robert Plotkin who made a commitment to maintain its community focus.

Mr. Speaker, David Mitchell has provided a vital service to West Marin as well as setting high standards for community newspapers. I know he will continue as a fixture on the local scene and maintain his passion for the issues he championed.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ALPHALONIA P. "PEACHES" GWYN

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Alphalonia P. "Peaches" Gwyn of Winston Salem, North Carolina.

We rely on a great number of people, in addition to the members of our staff, to do our jobs as members of Congress. The people we work with twice a week to help us get to and from our districts become part of the extended network of support that helps us fulfill our duties.

One of those people was Peaches Gwyn. A dedicated employee of US Airways, Peaches always had a smile and a friendly voice at US Airways' Capitol Desk. Peaches was tireless, making sure that members of Congress were able to get back to their districts and serve their constituents. She handled herself with grace and aplomb on the phone with staff members under pressure to get their bosses on the first flight possible.

I have heard of the help she offered through my schedulers over the years who were sorry to learn that she recently succumbed to cancer. Her coworkers told us that Peaches fought cancer every step of the way, never giving up. She wanted to keep busy and go back to work, but eventually lost her battle.

My thoughts and prayers are with those at US Airways who loved her and learned from her. May the Gwyn and Perkins families be comforted by peaceful memories and may they find strength in Peaches' spirit which lives on through everyone she touched.

RECOGNITION OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of Greek Independence Day, which was celebrated this past Saturday. In doing so, I reaffirm the historic and strategic ties between the United States of America and Greece, and acknowledge the heritage that all of Western civilization draws from both ancient and modern sources in Greece.

On March 25, 1821, the people of Greece declared independence from their Ottoman occupiers and reclaimed the mantle of democracy that they originated in ancient Athens. Since then, they have been a true and steady friend of the United States, working together to promote our common ideals, common goals, and in recognition of our mutual admiration. We are partners in seeking peace and prosperity in the Balkans and southeastern Mediterranean, as well as throughout the world. In celebrating Greek Independence Day this year, we recognize the contributions of ancient Greece to the establishment of democracy and culture, and the continuing importance of modern Greece in national affairs.

Additionally, we affirm the innumerable contributions that Greek Americans have made to